



Memorandum

TO: Historic Landmarks Commission

FROM: Courtney Damkroger

SUBJECT: East Downtown Frame Historic Resources Survey
DATE: December 17, 2002

APPROVED:

DATE:

BACKGROUND

Attached please find a copy of the East Downtown Frame Historic Resources Survey Report, Methodology and Contexts. The survey area is bounded by South Fourth Street, East Santa Clara Street, South Eleventh Street and Interstate 280. The survey was conducted by Architectural Resources Group.

In the 1998 University Neighborhoods Revitalization Plan, the neighborhood identified an historic resource survey as a priority for their revitalization efforts. The City of San Jose funded Phase I, and a portion of Phase II, of the survey. Phase I consisted primarily of a Reconnaissance level survey that identified approximately 400 properties for further study at the intensive survey level. This phase also included the completion of 115 State of California Department of Parks and Recreation forms (DPR), context and potential historic district identification. Phase II of the survey was funded in part by the City of San Jose and by a \$25,000 Certified Local Government (CLG) grant from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and funded through the California Office of Historic Preservation. This portion of the survey included the refinement of historic contexts for the area, and an additional 265 DPR forms. The two phases have been unified into one document.

A copy of the Survey Report, exclusive of the Sanborn maps included in the copy provided to the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement has been distributed to the Landmarks Commission and other interested parties. Due to the volume of the full report, the inclusion of the Sanborn maps and the 380 DPRs and City Tally sheets, only the Survey Report has been distributed.

Following review by the Landmarks Commission, Planning staff expects to send the survey to the San Jose City Council for their review and acceptance. Complete copies of the report will be provided over the next several months to the California Room at the San Jose Public Library and History San Jose. A complete copy of the survey has been sent to the California Office of Historic Preservation in fulfillment of the CLG grant obligations.

ANALYSIS

The Reconnaissance level survey reviewed approximately 780 properties and found 400 worthy of additional research. Prior to the survey roughly 200 properties in the area had been identified in one way or another as potentially historic. The survey team further evaluated these sites as well as those they identified as potentially historic. In addition to individually significant properties, the survey team identified a potential historic district south of the San Jose State University campus. This district is potentially eligible as a local as well as California and National register district. The potential district is roughly bounded by E. San Salvador Street, the east side of S. 6th Street, Interstate 280 and S. 5th Street with a small notch to the west incorporating S. 4th between E. Reed Street and Interstate 280 (please see the map in the survey report). It is worth noting that should there be an interest in nominating this district to the California or National registers additional research would be required.

The survey team found that

- ? 66 properties appear to be contributors to a potential district
- ? 26 properties appear to be individually eligible for the National Register
- ? 65 properties appear to be individually eligible for the California Register
- ? 34 properties appear to be individually eligible as Candidate City Landmarks
- ? approximately 216 properties appear to qualify for the Historic Resources Inventory
- ? 39 properties appear to have been designed by the firm of Wolfe & McKenzie

RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends that the Historic Landmarks Commission review and accept the East Downtown Frame Historic Resources Survey Report.

Courtney Damkroger
Historic Preservation Officer

Attachments:
Survey Report

C: Lisa Jensen, University Neighborhoods Coalition
Norman Finnance, South University Neighborhoods Association